2: Hickinbotham G-4, 5 (ca. 1931-ca. 1957)
1958 MM1 Aden MM1

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disorder is to be prevented when the Cabinet, led by the Prime Minister, go away and leave their country to its own devices.

There was no trouble at all and disappointed by the result of their demonstration the Naib and his colleagues thought better of their hasty action after a few days and returned to their duty, and the Government Guards went back to Aden to await the next emergency. The atmosphere was still not conducive to calm thinking, so the negotiations about the re-organisation scheme for the Board were further delayed, while the Naib and some of the Council members prepared to form with the Fadli Naib and representatives of his Council a joint mission which, under the experienced guidance of the Director of Agriculture was being sent to London and Liverpool to discuss cotton prices and the method of disposal of the cotton crop when the Board's contract with the Raw Cotton Commission expired. It was thought that the change of air and change of scene would do everyone good, and very soon the minds of those who had not travelled to the West before were absorbed with such problems as how to button up a pair of trousers and whether the shirt went inside or outside.

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Up in the highlands of Upper Yafa where the rainfall is sufficient for coffee to be grown, there is very little soil, and the hardy inhabitants have conserved every inch they can find by terracing their steep hills to their very tops. I always enjoyed flying over this country which I never reached on foot, and looking down at the mountains which, with their intricate terraces looked exactly like a geography model designed to illustrate contouring, so closely have the builders followed the natural course of the ground. The coffee produced in these hills is as fine as the so-called "Mocha" coffee of the Yemen and most of it finds its way down to Aden and from there, after being graded for quality, reaches the markets of the United Kingdom and the United States. I said so-called "Mocha" coffee because in point of fact no coffee is grown in the neighbourhood of Mocha, which is a small sea port on the Yemen coast of the Red Sea which gave its name to the coffee which was exported from there after having been brought down by

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245 camel from the high hills of the interior. Coffee will not grow below 4,000 ft. at the latitude of Aden and the Yemen.

244 Away to the east on the Audhali plateau and in the other
243 high regions, wheat and barley are cultivated by well water
312 irrigation from shallow wells, and apricot trees grow naturally
245 among the fields and grape vines run over the trees that border the grassy valleys. Much attention has been given to increasing the fruit cultivation and to the growing of tomatoes and other
[177] vegetables in the summer time when the low lying plains are far too hot. Plums and apples and peaches and walnuts have been introduced successfully, and lower down citrus culti-
262 vation has had surprisingly good results. Originally, of course,
178 the idea was that these fruits and vegetables would be available
433 to the Colony markets and to a certain extent this has proved to be true, but no-one anticipated the extent to which local consumption of vegetables and fruit would increase in the
(177) Protectorate itself. It is extraordinary how quickly people will develop a taste for new varieties of vegetables, as I had found in Muscat when I first introduced cabbages. Nobody had seen them before and at first I had to give them away and persuade people to eat them, but it was not long before they came and helped themselves. It was much the same in the Protectorate with lettuce, which was looked upon with distrust when I first travelled to Loder and Mukeiras, but by the time I left twenty-five years later no meal was complete without a dish of salad.

243 Down in the plains the main crops are sorghum and bullrush
262 millet which grow throughout the Protectorate and provide the staple diet of the people who grind and pound the grain into coarse flour from which they make a very palatable un-
245 leavened bread. Where water is available in sufficient quantity
312 as at Lahej and in the Wadi Hadhrami, there are extensive date-palm plantations and bananas, and other Eastern fruits are
244 cultivated with particular emphasis on the melons which flourish abundantly and are of excellent quality.

241 Two things have handicapped agricultural development in
441 the Protectorate. The first of these is lack of money and the second lack of a suitable marketing organisation. The power to

5;Gt. Brit., Colonial Office G-2(1947)-1949 MM1 Aden MM1

PART III

Chapter 1: Geography and Climate

THE Colony of Aden is situated in latitude 12° 47′ N. and longitude 45° 10′ E., about 100 miles east of the Straits of Bab-el-Mandeb on the southern coast of Arabia. It comprises: 131

(*a*) The Peninsula on which are situated the main town known as Crater, the modern harbour suburb known as Tawahi, adjacent to which is an area leased by the Township Authority to the Air Ministry for Royal Air Force and military purposes, and known collectively as Steamer Point but more particularly by the name of the spurs of Jebel Shamsan, on which buildings have been constructed, and lastly the Dhow Harbour and village of Maala.

(*b*) The isthmus known as Khormaksar.

(*c*) An area of land enclosing the modern harbour and extending north and west to the Little Aden Peninsula. The villages of Sheikh Othman, Hiswa, Imad, Buraikha and Fukum (the last two on the Little Aden Peninsula) are situated in this area. 351

(*d*) The island of Perim.

The Aden Peninsula is high, rocky and of volcanic formation; Jebel Shamsan, its summit, is 1,725 feet high, and there are some turreted peaks close to it. The harbour lies to the westward and north-west of the Peninsula. Dwelling-houses and shops are constructed on the ridges of the mountain and in the valley between them where the ground is normally level. Crater, the main and original town, is situated at a distance of five miles from the modern harbour, and lies in the extinct volcano on the east of the Peninsula. 133 361

The isthmus is a flat, sandy plain on which have been laid out the aerodrome and lines of the Royal Air Force, the Aden Protectorate Levy Lines, the Singapore Lines and the golf course. It is only 1,320 yards wide at its narrowest point near the Peninsula. Cultivation occurs at Sheikh Othman in the form of a large vegetable and fruit-garden belonging to the Township Authority. There are also privately owned date-palms there. 211 215

Hiswa has several groves of palms, but with these exceptions there is no regular cultivation in the Colony.

Salt is manufactured in large quantities on the flat shores of the bay, by the process of solar evaporation. 317

Perim Island, situated in the Straits of Bab-el-Mandeb, is bare, rocky 133

8:Gt. Brit., Colonial Office G-3 (1951-52)1954 MM1 Aden MM1

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(b) The Isthmus known as Khormaksar.

(c) An area of land enclosing the modern harbour and extending north and west to the Little Aden Peninsula. The villages of Sheikh Othman, Hiswa, Imad, Buraikha and Fukum (the last two on the Little Aden Peninsula) are situated in this area, and it is on the Little Aden Peninsula that the new refinery and township are being built.

(d) The island of Perim.

The Aden Peninsula is high, rocky and of volcanic formation ; Jebel Shamsan, its summit, is 1,725 feet high, and there are some turreted peaks close to it. The harbour lies to the westward and north-west of the Peninsula. Dwelling houses and shops are constructed on the ridges of the mountain and in the valley between them where the ground is normally level. Crater, the main and original town, is situated at a distance of five miles from the modern harbour, and lies in the extinct volcano on the east of the Peninsula.

The isthmus is a flat, sandy plain on which have been laid out the aerodrome and lines of the Royal Air Force, the Aden Protectorate Levy Lines, the Singapore Lines, the golf course and polo ground. It is only 1,320 yards wide at its narrowest point near the Peninsula.

Cultivation occurs at Sheikh Othman in the form of a large vegetable and fruit garden belonging to the Township Authority, and there are some privately-owned date-palms there. Hiswa also has several groves of palms, but with these exceptions there is no regular cultivation in the Colony.

Perim Island, situated in the Straits of Bab-el-Mandeb, is bare, rocky and rather flat in appearance ; its highest point, about a mile northward at its southern extremity is 214 feet high. The surface of the island is grooved with dry water-courses and covered with coarse grass and stunted shrubs, the sub-soil being sand and conglomerate coral. Perim Harbour and False Bay, a small shoal light, lie on the southern side of the island. It possesses a good small harbour on the south-west side, with an entrance 860 yards in breadth, and a small air landing ground.